having a sizeable population of Indian workers have officers specifically designated for work related to Indian labour alone. The number of such Missions is 8.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir, other than above there are Consular officers in all our Missions abroad looking after the welfare of Indian workers. The Consular Sections also perform, among other things, the following functions related to Indian workers:

Complaints from abroad against individuals/firms etc. in India and from India against individuals/firms, etc. abroad (except commercial disputes); transmission of legal documents viz. letters of Request/Commissions, notices etc.; Indian Seamen. Regulations relating to shipping and navigation; War damage/pay/pension/provident fund, etc. claims of Indians against foreign Governments; properties and estates and wills of Indians abroad and estates and wills of foreigners in India excluding evacuee properties; deaths and funerals of Indians abroad and of foreigners in India; civil and criminal proceedings against Indians abroad; questions relating to Indian citizenship including registration of births and deaths abroad; marriages and divorces including Special Marriages Act, 1954 and Rules made thereunder, Foreign Marriages Act, 1969 and Rules made thereunder; legislation of documents-Notarial Acts Attestation and verification of documents; repatriation of destitute Indian citizens from abroad (except Haj pilgrims) and recovery of repatriation charges; enquiries relating to whereabouts of Indians abroad and their relatives in India (except students) and whereabouts of foreigners in India; financial assistance to Indian citizens (except Haj pilgrims) stranded abroad.

1860. [*Transferred to the 18th March*, 1986].

Transfers and postings in defence establishments

1861. SHRI S. W. DHABE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's policy regarding tranfers and postings of employees in different defence establishments who are nearing retirement age; and

(b) whether they are given any option of being posted in their home States or places of their choice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) and (b) Civilian employees nearing retirements are normaly not transferred, except when it is necessary to do so on account of promotions or administrative exigencies. However, in case an employee requests a transfer to a station of his choice, all efforts are made to accommodate him.

Requests of Service personnel for transfers to stations of their choice, during the last one to two years of their service, are also considered, subject to administrative feasibility.

1971 के युद्ध के पश्चात् लापता रक्षा कार्मिकों का प्रत्यावर्तन

1862. **श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी :** क्या **विदेश** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि 1971 के भारत-पाक संघर्ष के पश्चात् 43 भारतीय रक्षा कार्मिक लापता हैं और वे उन 850 भारतीय सैनिकों में से हैं जो इस समय पाकिस्तानी जेलों में हैं और सरकार के अथक और बड़े प्रयत्नों के बावजूद न तो अब तक बंदियों की सूची ही प्राप्त की जा सकी है और न ही उनका प्रत्यावर्तन कराया जा सका है ; और